

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION MEETS JUNE 21

SIX THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED PERSONS WILL BE PRESENT AT THE OPENING EXERCISES.

THERE WILL BE NINE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT DELEGATES PRESENT.

CHICAGO, June 18.—The opening session of the 13th convention of the Republican party will be called to order at noon June 21 in the Coliseum building, Wabash ave. and Eighteenth street, by Henry C. Payne, vice chairman of the Republican national committee and postmaster general. Probably not since the days of Washington and Grant has a body of men having to do with the selection of the governing personnel of this nation met under what might be called such unanimous conditions as to a proposed ticket and platform.

Contrary to many early predictions of a lack of general public interest in this convention because of the foregone conclusion that President Roosevelt would be nominated, the crowds of visitors are expected to literally overrun the city's hotels, while hundreds are vainly endeavoring to secure entrance tickets to the Coliseum. Two weeks ago the price of convention seats was quoted at \$50, and to-day instances are cited where almost double that figure was offered for the coveted pasteboards.

Six thousand seven hundred persons will compose the gathering of citizens at the opening ceremonies. Almost twice that number would listen to the proceedings had there been room, but no one will be admitted to the vast building who is not provided with a seat. The "standing room" only signs will not be painted, for the reason that, since the memorable Iroquois theatre horror, the municipal laws of Chicago have been revised so that no public hall shall exceed its licensed seating capacity. In the Coliseum that is 6400. The platforms upon which the officials of the convention and the representatives of the press will sit brings the quota to the number first stated.

Nine hundred and eighty-eight delegates and as many alternates will find their places at an early hour and without confusion, owing to the systematic work of Sergeant-at-Arms Stone and the subcommittee on arrangements. The doors of the big structure will be thrown open long before business men begin to arrive at their down-town offices, so that there will be no congestion among the delegates and spectators. A brass band of fifty pieces will treat the early arrivals to a fine concert.

The temporary organization of the convention having been effected, former Secretary of War Elihu Root, of New York, will take the gavel as temporary chairman. At the close of Mr. Root's speech, the temporary organization of the convention being in full swing, an adjournment will probably be taken until 10 o'clock Wednesday.

Before the second session the committee on credentials must dispose of 30 contests. Claimants of the right to represent Wisconsin, Texas, Delaware and Louisiana have submitted claims that are being fought with bitterness. If these contests assume serious proportions the work of the convention may be delayed. It is possible that some of the affected States may lose their representation, a condition, however, not believed probable. Wisconsin's war is the most serious. In the Badger State Gov. LaFollette is pitted against what are termed the "Stalwarts," or those supporting the two United States Senators. The LaFollette State convention threw out a large number of the "Stalwart" delegates and the latter organized a rump convention, and brought the fight to the Coliseum. Gov. LaFollette claims to be making a strong fight against corporation domination in Wisconsin, but the Stalwarts say this is an imaginary situation and that LaFollette simply wants to be Poo-Bah of the commonwealth. The skill of the leaders, in political diplomacy will be heavily taxed, but it is believed to be equal to the occasion, so that the work of the second day's session will begin promptly at the appointed hour.

The first business of the second day probably will be to hear the report of the committee on permanent organization, which names the chairman of the convention. The most important business upon the agenda will go to the reading of the platform. The platform will go to the reading of the platform.

able, but these expressions of differing opinions will be reduced to the shortest possible time, and it is reasonably certain that the platform will be adopted in ample time to clear a way for the business of naming a ticket, which will likely occur Wednesday morning if the work of the session is expedited.

President Roosevelt will be placed in nomination by former Gov. Frank Black, of New York, whose speech is expected to be a rouser of enthusiasm as well as a glowing panegyric of the strenuous executive. The second day's speeches will be made by Senator Beveridge, of Indiana; Geo. A. Knight, of California; Harry Stillwell Edwards, of Georgia; Jos. B. Cotton, of Minnesota, and Harry S. Cummings, of Maryland. These probably will conclude the second day's session.

Thursday is expected to reveal the name of the running mate of President Roosevelt, and, if there is to be anything at all like a scrimmage for political preferment during this convention, it will make its appearance then. The majority of opinion has it that Senator Fairbanks will be coupled with the President, though the adherents of the Nebraskan, John L. Webster, hope to make an impression. The fact that Illinois is represented in the person of the speaker of the house has been a deterrent feature to the candidacy of Mr. Hitt—a candidacy that might be termed an 11th hour affair, for it practically was unborn prior to the Republican State convention of Illinois, which endorsed the able member of the foreign relations committee of the house for the place.

As the old national committee went out of existence by limitation and their successors were selected by the State delegations to meet as soon as practicable after the nominations, the new committee will not be able to convene until the fourth day. At this meeting organization for campaign work will be effected. As the selection of a chairman is left to the nominee for President, it is almost certain that Mr. Roosevelt will name Secretary of Commerce and Labor Geo. B. Cortelyou to direct the coming campaign.

Since the first national conventions of 1832, held at Baltimore, there has been no such gathering of party hosts comparable with this one and the business-like methods used to house and manage it without friction. The convention arrangements will be most admirable and unusual. Nonesave the sergeants-at-arms will be permitted to stand in the aisles. Uniformed messengers will deliver messages from the 12 long distance telephone booths and the telegraph office under the stage floor. Behind the speaker's stand is the division allotted to the distinguished guests, and encircling that are the seats of 300 newspaper correspondents.

Twenty-five stenographers and telegraph operators in the service of various news bureaus and press associations will be seated at tables just below the speaker's table. The monster convention will be conducted along lines of a well-ordered industrial plant.

From a single controlling point invisible to all within the hall, the managers will direct every movement. By means of a private system of telephones, Col. Wm. F. Stone, collector of customs of Baltimore and sergeant-at-arms of the convention, will control all details. Everything is expected to move like clockwork. A button will be pushed and the band will play. The same button will be pushed twice and the music will cease. The vast machinery necessary to handle 1984 delegates and alternates and an army of doorkeepers, ushers and other assistants, is expected to operate noiselessly and perfectly. The band will be elevated on a stand above the second gallery where the rounded hollow walls of the big building will send the volume of inspiring melody out with majestic effect. The press section and stage floors will be carpeted.

Adjoining the auditorium is an annex that was built from the materials in the old Libby prison. In this annex will be the rooms of the national committee and subcommittees. Retiring rooms for ladies and smoking rooms for men will be appreciated conveniences. "Spiritual comfort" for the thirsty is not to be had anywhere about the building, all efforts on the part of liquor vendors to secure concessions at enormous prices having failed. Not even the lowly ham sandwich will be obtained within the walls. It was argued that as this is going to be a business convention it will keep "business hours," hence there will be due time to eat and to attend to the wants of human-

ity in general without making a circus of the Coliseum building. This will be the first time in the history of national conventions that all the managers have been under the same roof with the main body of delegates, and so far as known, no previous convention of any party was ever conducted on such a systematic basis as the Republican national convention of 1904.

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FAIRMONT, W. Va.
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FAIRMONT, W. Va.
Office, Hall Block.

C. H. LEEDS,
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FAIRMONT, W. Va.
Office, Hall Block.

HARRY SHAW,
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Office, Haymond bldg., Jefferson St.

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FAIRMONT, W. Va.
Office Main St., Opposite Court-house.

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ELKINS

SAYS WEST VIRGINIA WILL ROLL UP 30,000 MAJORITY—NOT A CANDIDATE

FOR VICE PRESIDENT—MR. HITT SELECTED FOR THE PLACE.

WHEELING, June 18.—"I can see no reason why any Republican in West Virginia should change his politics at the coming election," said Senator Stephen B. Elkins, who arrived in the city last evening and is stopping at the McLure. "The party will roll up a majority in November of not less than 20,000, and perhaps 30,000 would be low enough to make the estimate. It is true there are some differences in the ranks of the party now, but after the State convention has been held in Wheeling next month all the fighting will be over and the Republicans will present a solid front to their common enemy, the Democrats, and will get together for the purpose of rolling up a bigger majority in this State than it has ever given before."

"This tax reform question is one that is attracting a great deal of attention, of course, and it affects all parties. The Democrats are not going to do anything with it, and the Republicans will settle their differences on that subject in an amicable manner. It is, of course, necessary that there should be some changes in the existing laws, but I have paid so little attention to the matter that I would not care to go into the subject now."

"West Virginia is a State that has, as much as any other in the union, felt the effects of the protective tariff of the Republican party, and the tariff on the materials of industry produced by this State has been of such benefit to the people that they do not care for a change. The Democrats are not offering us anything better and will have nothing to give that will make the State more prosperous than it has been under Republican rule."

"I am not a candidate for the nomination for Vice-President," said the Senator in reply to a question on that subject. "That matter has been settled for some time. My impression is that Mr. Hitt, of Illinois, will be the nominee of the convention at Chicago, though Speaker Cannon might be forced to accept the nomination."

Senator Elkins would not talk regarding the fight for the gubernatorial nomination. He would not indicate his preference of the two candidates, but said he was for the man who received the nomination at the State convention.

Mr. Elkins is accompanied on his trip here by his son, Davis Elkins, and his private secretary, Calvin H. Livingstone. The party will leave for points down the river, stopping at Parkersburg and Huntington and then going to Charleston. In all of these cities Senator Elkins has large financial interests which he is looking after on his trip. He was in consultation this morning with some of the local bankers regarding his interests in Wheeling.

The trip is purely a business one and he will not go to the national convention at Chicago, as was erroneously stated in the morning papers.

The St. Louis Nominee.

Daily conditions of all the gabble over an approaching national convention have become recognized as necessary press duties, and it evinces a healthy American citizenship when interest is maintained, however incoherent and material. But the peculiar antipathy and venom displayed toward Judge Parker in certain Eastern Republican journals of party weight are puzzling. The personal qualities of Mr. Roosevelt that attract the people to him, and the preponderating Republican principles and facts that seem to assure his election are apparently belittled by this anxious and unremitting endeavor to prove that the unloquacious Judge will not be named by the Democrats. Wherefore this fearsome worry confined to him, which appears to seek the most fantastic arguments for its removal? The St. Louis nomination is a news item.

Nothing except the Illinois crazy-horse procedure has occurred for weeks to disrupt the original Democratic alignment drawn by the conservatives coming back in response to a party wearied and disgusted over Bryanism. The East and South were the great wings to be marshalled and the populistic West was to be permitted to continue wandering after its false gods. That program has suffered no alteration. Bryanism has had sporadic manifestations, but the very next day some Southern State adheres to the chart. A last gasp of the instable and visionary faction is to be given in Cooper Union next week. Its influence by every experience of human nature and political feeling will be to intensify the conservative movement.

Saving at all times the reflection that a National Democratic convention can execute antics beyond reason and shame as that in Illinois the nominee at St. Louis will be Parker. It might be more encouraging to their party brethren if the journals aforesaid would begin practice on the familiar lines of waging a campaign against him.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

A Song of Peace.

Put off, put off your mail, ye kings,
and beat your brands to dust;
A surer grasp your hands must know,
your hearts a better trust.
Nay, bend aback the lance's point, and
break the helmet bar,
A noise is in the morning winds, but
not the note of war!

Among the grassy mountain paths the
glittering troops increase;
They come! they come! how fair their
feet—they come that publish
peace.

Yea, Victory, fair Victory, our
enemies are ours.

And all the clouds are clasped in
light, and all the earth with
flowers.

Ah! still depressed and dim with dew,
but wait a little while,
And radiant with the deathless rose
the wilderness shall smile,
And every tender, living thing shall
feed by streams of rest,
Nor lamb shall from the fold be lost,
nor nesting from the nest.
—John Ruskin.

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